



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicants : Howard E. Rhodes, Luan Tran
Serial No. : 08/733,340
Filed : October 17, 1996
Title : SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING IMPROVED CONTACTS
TO A THIN CONDUCTIVE LAYER
Docket : 94-0112.02 (MIO 012 FA)
Art Unit : 2508
Examiner : A. Williams

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JUN 09 1998

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

GROUP 2100

Sir:

DECLARATION OF COINVENTOR LUAN TRAN

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I, Luan Tran, declare and state as follows that:

1. I am a named coinventor of the above-identified patent application. I am making this statement to clarify the facts and circumstances which relate to my status as coinventor.
2. Howard Rhodes and I are both employed by Micron Technology, Inc., the assignee of this patent application. At the time the invention was made at Micron, Mr. Rhodes and I were working on different projects both of which involved the formation of reliable contacts to thin conductive layers in semiconductor devices. At the time, I was not aware that Mr. Rhodes had also been working on similar structures and processes and that he had submitted an invention disclosure document.
3. An internal review at Micron by the Patent Committee determined that I had invented a related structure and process, and I became aware of Mr. Rhodes invention. It was determined that Mr. Rhodes and I had invented different embodiments of a single invention. The embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figs. 8-10, with accompanying description in the specification, is my contribution which was added to the patent application during its preparation. Mr. Rhodes and I were recognized

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internally within Micron as coinventors of this patent application.

4. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application and any patent issued thereon.

Date: 4/16/97

Luan Tran
Luan Tran